

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of defining and at least partially correcting errors of an image reproduction system, said errors being deviations between an image of predetermined quality and its reproduction, such errors being caused by defects in the image reproduction system, the method comprising the steps of:

determining the parameters of a neuronal net by a learning process utilizing a test image of predetermined quality as a learning pattern; feeding data representative of an image to be reproduced to the neuronal net for processing in accordance with the parameters;

operating an image forming device on the basis of the data processed by the neuronal net.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the neuronal net is implemented in a computer.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the

neuronal net is implemented in an application specific circuit.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the neuronal net is trained by data derived from an uncorrected digitized test image provided by the image forming device and wherein the target data is derived from digitized data of the original image to be reproduced.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the parameters of the neuronal net are values derived from an image forming system the quality of image formation of which substantially corresponds to the image forming quality of the image forming system to be corrected if the errors to be corrected are larger than device-by-device variances of the image defects to be corrected.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the neuronal net is a mono-layered one of linear transfer function.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the errors relate to color channels and wherein the correction of N color channels requires adding of the outputs of N^2 neuronal nets.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for correcting image forming data, comprising:

a neuronal net implemented on a predetermined circuit and comprising parameters established by a learning process on the basis of a test image of predetermined quality, the output neurons of the neuronal net being connected to the inputs of the picture elements of an image forming device;

a storage for image data to be reproduced and connected and feeding the pixel values to the inputs input neurons of the neuronal net; and

an image recording device for generating digital data of an uncorrected image of a test image provided by the image forming device and connected to the inputs of the neuronal net during the learning process for defining the parameters.

Claim 9 (Original): The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the image recording device is connected to the inputs of the neuronal net through an image data storage.

Claim 10 (Original): The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the image forming quality of the image recording device is superior to the image reproducing quality of the image reproducing device.